

The Money Monitor

...keeping track of how Washington wants to spend your money

Week of February 23-27, 2004

Net five-year cost of House authorizations passed by the House *this week*:
\$156,000,000.00

H.R. 2696	Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act	\$75.0 million
H.R. 2707	Salt Cedar and Russian Olive Control Demonstration Act	\$81.0 million

TOTAL FIVE-YEAR COST OF THIS WEEK'S AUTHORIZATIONS \$156.0 million

Year-to-date total of net five-year costs of House-passed authorizations:
\$10,278,800,000.00*

* This figure does not include the authorizations contained in the Surface Transportation Extension Act (**H.R. 3783**), which the House passed on February 11, 2004. When a cost estimate for this bill becomes available, the RSC will update The Money Monitor accordingly.

Net five-year change in House-passed mandatory spending *this week*:
\$19,000,000.00

H.R. 2751	GAO Human Capital Reform Act	\$19.0 million
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THIS WEEK'S NET FIVE-YEAR CHANGE IN MANDATORY SPENDING \$19.0 million

Year-to-date net five-year change in House-passed mandatory spending:
-\$258,000,000.00**

** This figure does not include the mandatory spending change contained in the Surface Transportation Extension Act (**H.R. 3783**), which the House passed on February 11, 2004. When a cost estimate for this bill becomes available, the RSC will update The Money Monitor accordingly.

Net one-year cost of appropriations passed by the House *this week*:
Fiscal Year 2004: \$0.00
Fiscal Year 2005: \$0.00

Year-to-date total of net one-year costs of appropriations passed during the
2nd Session of the 108th Congress:

Fiscal Year 2004: \$0.00

Fiscal Year 2005: \$0.00

Net five-year revenue change by House bills passed *this week*:
\$0.00

Year-to-date net five-year revenue change by House-passed bills:
-\$304,000,000.00

An authorization (otherwise known as “discretionary spending”) explicitly allows funding for a certain program and / or directs a federal agency to take a certain action. Authorizations express the House's *intent* to spend, however, actual funding is provided through the annual appropriations process. **Authorizations with no net cost, bills that would result in no significant net change in mandatory spending or federal revenue, and private-sector costs from federal mandates are not reported here.**

Mandatory spending directly establishes an appropriation. No subsequent action is required for the money to be spent.

The figures for revenue changes are from “static” estimates by the Joint Committee on Taxation or the Congressional Budget Office. That is, they do not take into account the stimulative effects that tax cuts and certain other revenue reductions have on the national economy.

All numbers in “The Money Monitor” are positive unless otherwise indicated.

Neither the costs of conference reports nor the costs of bills that have already been recorded under substantively similar House-passed legislation are recorded here. “The Money Monitor” only accounts for the costs of bills as they first pass the House (with the exception of bills that contain major cost-related changes upon subsequent House passage—yet BEFORE Senate passage). **In short, “The Money Monitor” tracks the House’s *original* monetary intent.**

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